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## TESTING CONDITIONS FOR ENERGY STAR® MEASUREMENT COPIERS

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In order to eliminate confusion and ensure consistency, the following protocol should be followed when measuring power under the ENERGY STAR® Copiers Program.

### **I. TEST CONDITIONS**

- c Line Impedance: < 0.25 ohm
- c Total Harmonic Distortion: < 3%  
(Voltage)
- c Ambient Temperature:  $21\text{E C} \pm 3\text{E C}$
- c Relative Humidity: 40 - 60 %
- c Distance From Wall: 2 ft. min.
- c Other Market-Specific Criteria:

Market	Paper Size	Voltage/ Frequency
United States	8.5" x 11"	115 V RMS +/- 5 V 60 Hz +/- 3Hz
Europe	A4	230 V RMS +/- 10 V 50 Hz +/- 3 Hz
Japan	A4	100 V RMS +/- 5 V 50 Hz +/- 3 Hz and 60 Hz +/- 3 Hz  200 V RMS +/- 10 V 50 Hz +/- 3 Hz and 60 Hz +/- 3 Hz

Partners shall perform tests on their products based on the market in which the product will be sold. For example, a Program Participant that is shipping a copier to Europe must determine the copier speed based on A4 paper, and then measure the power consumption using the voltage and frequency values specified for the European market. For equipment that is rated at multiple input voltages and sold in multiple international markets, the Program Participant must test at all rated voltages if it plans to display the ENERGY STAR® logo on the product in all markets.

All supplies used shall be those specified by the copier manufacturer and preconditioned for a minimum of 24 hours at room ambient temperature prior to evaluating the copier power rating.

AC power shall be supplied as a true sine wave.

## **II. TEST METHOD**

Manufacturers should measure the **Average** power consumption of their copier products when in the off or low-power modes. This should be done by measuring the **Energy** consumption over a 1-hour period. The resulting energy consumption can be divided by 1 hour to calculate average Watts.

### **A. Off Mode Power Measurement.**

Prior to the start of this test, the machine should be plugged in to a live power line but turned off and stabilized at room ambient conditions for at least 12 hours. An appropriate Watt-hour meter should be in line with the machine, ready to give an accurate indication of machine energy consumption without disruption of the power source.

Turn on the copier, and let it go through its warm-up cycle. After it is ready to make a copy, make one copy, then wait exactly the amount of time specified for the copier to enter the off mode through the auto-off feature. For low speed copiers, wait 30 minutes, for mid-speed copiers, wait 60 minutes, and for high speed copiers, wait 90 minutes. After the appropriate delay time has passed, read and record the Watt-hour meter indication and the time (or start the stopwatch or timer). After 1 hour, read and record the Watt-hour indication again. The difference between the two readings of the Watt-hour meter is the off mode energy use; divide by 1 hour to obtain the average power rating.

### **B. Low-Power Mode Power Measurement.**

Prior to the start of this test, the machine should have been plugged in to a live power line but turned off and stabilized at room ambient conditions for at least 12 hours. An appropriate Watt-hour meter should be in line with the machine, ready to give an accurate indication of machine energy consumption without disruption of the power source. This measurement may be done sequentially with the off-mode power measurement; the two tests together should take no more than 14 hours to perform, including the time required for the machine to be plugged in and turned off.

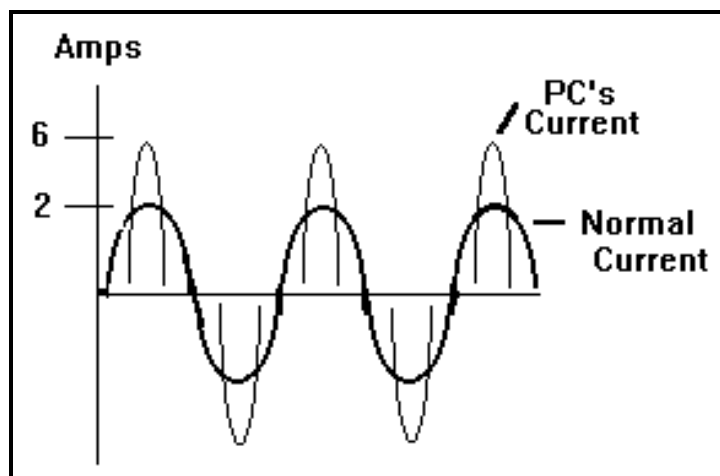
Turn on the copier, and let it go through its warm-up cycle. Make one copy, then wait exactly 15 minutes (for mid- and high-speed copiers only). After 15 minutes has passed, read and record the Watt-hour meter indication and the time (or start the stopwatch or timer). After 1 hour, read and record the Watt-hour indication again. The difference between the two readings of the Watt-hour meter is the low-power mode energy use; divide by 1 hour to obtain the average power rating.

### III. TESTING EQUIPMENT

The goal is to accurately measure the TRUE power consumption<sup>1</sup> of the copier. This necessitates the use of a **True RMS** Watt-Hour Meter, one per phase, accurate to three figures. There are many Watt-hour meters to choose from, but manufacturers will need to exercise care in selecting an appropriate model. The following factors should be considered when purchasing a meter and setting up the actual test.

#### Crest Factor

To begin, it is important to understanding that copiers which contain switching power supplies draw current in a waveform different from typical sinusoidal current.<sup>2</sup> Figure 1 shows the typical current waveform for office equipment with switching power supplies. While the one shown below is for a typical PC, a copier would have a similar waveform. While virtually any meter can measure a standard current waveform, it is more difficult to select a meter when irregular current waveforms are involved.



(Figure 1)

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<sup>1</sup> True power is defined as (volts)x(amps)x(power factor), and is typically reported as Watts. Apparent power is defined as (volts)x(amps) and is usually expressed in terms of VA or volt-amps. The power factor for equipment with switching power supplies is always less than 1.0, so true power is always less than apparent power.

<sup>2</sup> The crest factor for a sinusoidal 60 Hz current waveform is always 1.4. The crest factor for a current waveform associated with a copier containing a switching power supply will always be greater than 1.4 (though typically no higher than 8). The crest factor of a current waveform is defined as the ratio of the peak current (amps) to the RMS current (amps).

It is critical that the meter selected be capable of reading the current drawn by the copier without causing internal peak distortion (i.e., clipping off the top of the current wave). This requires a review of the meter's crest factor,<sup>3</sup> and of the current ranges available on the meter. Better meters will have higher crest factors, and more choices of current ranges.

When preparing the test, the first step should be to determine the peak current (amps) associated with the copier being measured. This can be accomplished using an oscilloscope. Then a current range must be selected that will enable the meter to register the peak current. Specifically, the full scale value of the current range selected multiplied by the crest factor of the meter (for current) must be greater than the peak current reading from the oscilloscope. For example, if a Watt-hour meter has a crest factor of 4, and the current range is set on 3 amps, the meter can register current spikes of up to 12 amps. If measured peak current is only 6 amps, the meter would be satisfactory. The other concern to be aware of is that if the current range is set too high in order to register peak current, it may lose accuracy in measuring the non-peak current. Therefore, some delicate balancing is necessary. Again, with more current range choices and higher crest factors you will get better results.

### Frequency Response

Another issue to consider when selecting a Watt-hour meter is the frequency response rating of the meter. Electronic equipment that contains switching power supplies causes harmonics (odd harmonics typically up to the 21st). These harmonics must be accounted for in measurement, or the energy and power consumption will be inaccurate. Accordingly, EPA recommends that manufacturers purchase Watt-hour meters that have a frequency response of at least 3 kHz. This will account for harmonics up to the 50th, and is recommended by IEC 555.

### Resolution

Manufacturers will probably want a meter than can provide resolution of 0.1 W.

### Accuracy

Another feature to consider is the resulting accuracy that can be achieved. Catalogues and specification sheets for Watt-hour meters typically provide information on the accuracy of energy and power readings that can be achieved at different range settings. When measuring a product that is very close to the MOU specifications, Partners will need to set up a test that will provide greater accuracy. For example, if the resulting accuracy for a Watt-hour meter at the test settings is  $\pm 0.5$  W, then be sure the measured power consumption of the Copier is within at least 0.5 W of the MOU specification.

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<sup>3</sup> The crest factor of a Watt-hour meter is often provided for both current and voltage. For current it is the ratio of the peak current to the RMS current in a specific current range. When only one crest factor is given, it is usually for current. An average True RMS Watt-hour meter has a crest factor in the range of 2:1 to 6:1.

### Calibration

Watt-hour meters should be calibrated every year to maintain their accuracy.

## QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS REGARDING TESTING PROCEDURES FOR ENERGY STAR® COPIERS

Q: Are these testing requirements mandatory?

A: Stringency in testing is to your own advantage. It can help protect you from being accused of cheating by one of your competitors. However, the stringency and accuracy of your own testing can be determined based on your specific product. For example, if your product does not contain a switching power supply, some of the issues discussed are not relevant, and a more straightforward testing protocol could be used. Also, if you know your product is well below the MOU specifications, then you do not need to be as accurate in your measurement. If your product is closer to the MOU specifications, however, it is better to follow these guidelines.

Q: Where can I find a True RMS Watt-hour meter that will meet my requirements?

A: A true RMS Watt-hour meter can be ordered from several manufacturers. Some manufacturers that carry Watt-meters that may be appropriate include: Basic Measuring Instruments, Dranetz, RFL, and Valhalla. When you call any of these manufacturers be sure to tell them what you need the equipment for, and request their specification sheets. (As companies find adequate meters, please let us know so we can share them with other Partners.)

Q: Can I send my copier to an outside laboratory for testing?

A: Yes. It is also possible to send your copiers to an outside testing lab for measurement. You can make the decision to buy your own equipment, or pay to have it tested depending on the number of models you plan to test. Be sure to tell any lab about your accuracy requirements. A good test lab will be aware of the issues surrounding the power measurement for electronic devices such as copiers, but don't assume this is the case. You will probably want to give them copies of the EPA ENERGY STAR® testing procedure and equipment requirements.

Q: Will the voltage coming out of the wall have a harmonic distortion  $<3\%$ ?

A: Not always. However, a "resonant" line voltage regulator will help to regulate distortion to within 3%.

Q: Can I assume the voltage coming out of my wall socket is close to 115 V?

A: No. The voltage coming out the wall could easily vary by more than  $\pm 5$  V from the suggested 115 Volts AC. By applying a "resonant" line voltage regulator between the wall outlet and the device under test, the input voltage can be regulated to  $115\text{ V } \pm 1\%$ .